

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A fuel cell has an anode space, a cathode space and a proton-permeable membrane between the anode space and the cathode space. The anode space contains a hydride-forming and/or hydrogen-storing compound (or substance) and the cathode space has an easily oxidizable compound (or substance). During normal operation of the fuel cell, the latter can be electrochemically charged, so that the electrochemical capacity in the form of a battery operation of the fuel cell can be used for supplying energy.